

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims replaces the claims presently in the application:

1. (currently amended) A dosing dispenser for essentially spherical items contained in a container, ~~characterized in the dosing dispenser (1) consisting of a soft elastic plastic material and comprising:~~

~~that the dosing dispenser (1) comprises~~

~~an operating section (4),~~

~~a tubular section (11) having a passage channel (11) whose inner cross-section is larger than the items,~~

~~and an exit opening (6) which in the relaxed state of the dosing dispenser (1) has an elongated shape whose width is smaller and whose length is larger than the items, and that the dosing dispenser consists of a soft elastic plastic material and can be deformed being deformable by the application of pressure such that the exit opening gets larger than the items, and wherein~~

~~the tubular section (11) having the passage channel is attached at a distance from the exit opening (6) to an inner wall of the operating section (4) of the dosing dispenser (1),~~

~~two retaining cams (12) are on the end of the tubular section (11) and oriented towards the exit opening (6), and~~

the tubular section (11) is cut open in axial direction, so that the tubular section comprises at least two circumferential sections that are movable relative to each other.

2. (currently amended) The dosing dispenser according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that the passage channel (11) has formed thereon at least one retaining cam, preferably~~ wherein the two opposite retaining cams (12) having on the end of the tubular section (11) are generally opposed to each other and have a clearance thereinbetween therebetween in the relaxed state of the dosing dispenser (1) that is larger than the items, and ~~that including~~ an accommodating chamber (13) remains for one item between the exit opening and the retaining cams (12).

3. (currently amended) The dosing dispenser according to claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the retaining cams (12) are arranged at places located in the longitudinal direction of the exit opening (6).

4. (currently amended) The dosing dispenser according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the dosing dispenser (1) further comprises an annular plug section (2) which for tightly rests resting on the an inner wall of the an opening to the container opening, and a circular lateral projection (3) ~~which rests for resting on the an~~ upper edge of the container opening, ~~and a subsequent~~

wherein the operating section (4) which projects beyond the container opening.

5. (currently amended) The dosing dispenser according to claim 4, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein two axially extending grooves (9) are formed on ~~the an~~ outside ~~in the of a~~

circumferential wall of the operating section (4), ~~said grooves being positioned~~ in a plane bisecting the exit opening (6) in width direction.

6. (currently amended) The dosing dispenser according to claim 4, ~~characterized in that~~ including two grooves (10) are formed on the an outside ~~in the of~~ a face wall (5) of the operating section ~~(5), said grooves being positioned~~ section (4) along a line that bisects the exit opening (6) in width direction.

7. (currently amended) The dosing dispenser according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that the passage channel is formed by a~~ wherein the tubular section (11) ~~which~~ is attached at a distance from the exit opening (6) to ~~the~~ an inner wall (15) of the operating section (4), and

~~that the preferably~~ two retaining cams (12) are formed on the end of the tubular section (11) ~~oriented~~ towards the exit opening (6).

8. (currently amended) The dosing dispenser according to claim 7, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a free annular space (16) ~~remains is~~ between the inner wall (15) of the operating section (4) and ~~the~~ an outer wall of the tubular section (11).

9. (currently amended) The dosing dispenser according to claim 7, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the tubular section (11) ~~is cut open in~~ includes at least one slot extending in the axial direction so that it comprises at least two circumferential sections that are movable relative to each other.

10. (currently amended) The dosing dispenser according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the dosing dispenser (1) is made in one piece in an injection molding process.

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11. (currently amended) ~~A container comprising a~~ The dosing dispenser according to claim 1 in combination with the container.

12. (currently amended) The dosing dispenser and container according to claim 11, ~~further characterized by including a cap which includes~~ having an inwardly projecting pin which projects into the exit opening (6) of the dosing dispenser (1) in a state where the cap is mounted on a neck of the container ~~neck.~~